**SAMPLE NEWS RELEASE**

**Certification template for Palliative Care program**

(Insert media contact information)

**(Organization name) awarded Palliative Care Certification from The Joint Commission**

(CITY, State, Date) – (Organization name) has earned The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® for Palliative Care Certification by demonstrating continuous compliance with its performance standards. The Gold Seal is a symbol of quality that reflects a health care organization’s commitment to providing safe and quality patient care.

The certification recognizes (organization name’s) efforts to provide patient and family-centered care and to optimize the quality of life for adult and pediatric patients with serious illnesses. Palliative care addresses a patient’s physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs, and facilitates patient autonomy, access to information and choice.

(Organization name) underwent a rigorous, unannounced onsite review on (date). During the visit, a team of Joint Commission reviewers evaluated compliance with related certification standards including (insert most relevant standards areas – program management, supporting self-management, and delivering and facilitating clinical care). Joint Commission standards are developed in consultation with health care experts and providers, measurement experts and patients. The reviewers also conducted onsite observations and interviews.

“Palliative Care Certification recognizes health care organizations commitment to fostering continuous improvement in patient safety and quality of care,” says Deborah Ryan, MS, RN, interim executive vice president, Accreditation and Certification Operations, The Joint Commission. “We commend (organization name) for using certification to reduce variation in its clinical processes and to strengthen its program structure and management framework for palliative care patients.”

(Insert quote from organization leader)

(Insert specific examples of how organization prepared for certification process and/or specific certification’s eligibility requirements)

For more information, please visit [The Joint Commission website](https://www.jointcommission.org/).

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(Insert organization boilerplate)